AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An isolated DNA molecule selected from the group consisting of:

(a) DNA encoding a protein comprising ~~an amino acid sequence of~~ amino acids 1 through 417 of SEQ ID NO: 2; and

(b) DNA encoding a protein comprising ~~an amino acid sequence of~~ amino acids 1 through 411 of SEQ ID NO: ~~6;~~ 6.

~~(c) DNA molecules capable of hybridization to the DNA of (a) under stringent conditions that include 6X SSC at 63°C, and washing in 3X SSC at 55°C, and which encode a polypeptide capable of inducing apoptosis; and~~

~~(d) DNA molecules encoding soluble fragments of proteins encoded by the DNA of (a), the fragment being capable of inducing apoptosis~~.

Claim 2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) An isolated DNA ~~selected from the group consisting of:~~

~~(a) DNA encoding a protein comprising an amino acid sequence of amino acids 1 through 417 of SEQ ID NO: 2;~~

~~(b) DNA encoding a protein comprising an amino acid sequence of amino acids 1 through 411 of SEQ ID NO: 6;~~

~~(c) DNA~~ molecules ~~encoding a polypeptides~~ comprising an amino acid sequence that ~~are~~ is at least about ~~70~~ 98% identical ~~in amino acid sequence to the protein of (a)~~ to amino acids 1 through 417 of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the polypeptides ~~are~~ is capable of inducing apoptosis and identity is determined using the GAP computer program~~; and~~.

~~(d) DNA molecules encoding fragments of proteins encoded by the DNA of (a), (b) or (c), the fragment being capable of inducing apoptosis.~~

Claims 4 –5 (canceled)

6. (original) A recombinant expression vector comprising a DNA sequence according to claim 1.

7. (original) A recombinant expression vector comprising a DNA sequence according to claim 3.

Claims 8—9. (canceled)

10. (original) A host cell transformed or transfected with an expression vector according to claim 6.

11. (original) A host cell transformed or transfected with an expression vector according to claim 7.

Claim 12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) A process for preparing a protein, comprising culturing a host cell according to claim 10 under conditions promoting protein expression.

14. (currently amended) A process for preparing a protein, comprising culturing a host cell according to claim 11 under conditions promoting protein expression.

Claim 15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polypeptide comprising ~~an amino acid sequence of~~ amino acids 1 through 417 of SEQ ID NO: 2; and

(b) a polypeptide comprising ~~an amino acid sequence of~~ amino acids 1 through 411 of SEQ ID NO: 6~~;~~ .

~~(c) a polypeptide encoded by a DNA capable of hybridization to a DNA encoding the polypeptide of (a) under stringent conditions that include 50°C, and 5X SSC, the polypeptide being capable of inducing apoptosis; and~~

~~(d) fragments of the polypeptides of (a), or (b), the fragments capable of inducing apoptosis.~~

Claims 17-19. (cancelled)

20. (currently amended) An antibody immunoreactive with ~~AIR~~ a polypeptide comprising amino acids 1 through 417 of SEQ ID NO: 2, or a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of amino acids 1 through 411 of SEQ ID NO: 6.

21. (original) The antibody of claim 20 which is a monoclonal antibody.

22. (currently amended) An isolated ~~and purified~~ polypeptide selected from the group consisting of polypeptides comprising amino acids x1 to x2 of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein x1 is any one of amino acids 225 to 335, inclusive, and x2 is any one of amino acids 410 to 417, inclusive, and fragments of the polypeptide, wherein the fragments are capable of inducing apoptosis.

23. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide selected from the group consisting of polypeptides comprising amino acids x1 to x2 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein x1 is any one of amino acids 1 to 29, inclusive, and x2 is any one of amino acids 190 to 200, inclusive, and fragments of the polypeptide, wherein the fragments are capable of inhibiting apoptosis.

24.(currently amended) An isolated DNA encoding a polypeptide selected from the group of consisting of polypeptides comprising amino acids x1 to x2 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein x1 is any one of amino acids 1 to 29, inclusive, and x2 is any one of amino acids 190 to 200, inclusive, and fragments of the polypeptides wherein the fragments are capable of inhibiting apoptosis.

25. (currently amended) An isolated DNA encoding a polypeptide selected from the group of consisting of polypeptides comprising amino acids x1 to x2 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein x1 is any one of amino acids 225 to 335, inclusive, and x2 is any one of amino acids 410 to 417, inclusive, and fragments of the polypeptides, wherein the fragments are capable of inducing apoptosis.

26. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide ~~selected from the group consisting of:~~

~~(a) a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of amino acids 1 through 417 of SEQ ID NO: 2;~~

~~(b) a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of amino acids 1 through 411 of SEQ ID NO: 6;~~

~~(c) a polypeptide~~ comprising an amino acid sequence that is at least about ~~70~~ 98 % identical ~~in amino acid sequence~~ to amino acids 1 through 417 of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the polypeptide is capable of inducing apoptosis and the percent identity is calculated using the GAP computer program~~;~~.

~~(d) fragments of the polypeptides of (a) or (b), the fragments capable of inducing apoptosis.~~

27. (new) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the polypeptide is a fusion protein.

28. (new) The fusion protein of claim 27 wherein the polypeptide is linked to an Fc region.

29. (new) An isolated DNA molecule encoding a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2.

30. (new) An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2.

31. (new) An isolated polypeptide having an extracellular domain comprising amino acid residues 1 through 199 of SEQ ID NO: 2 or a fragment thereof.

32. (new) A fusion protein comprising the polypeptide of claim 31.